(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 11 March 2004 (11.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/019996 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7:

A61K 49/06

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2003/009589

(22) International Filing Date: 29 August 2003 (29.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 0219953.7

29 August 2002 (29.08.2002) GB

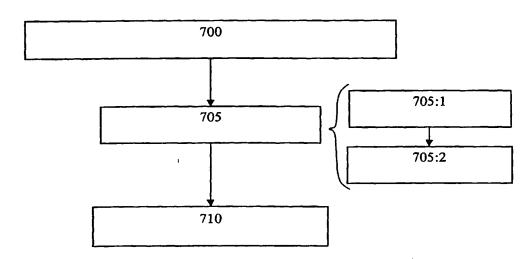
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AMER-SHAM HEALTH R & D AB [SE/SE]; Medeon, Per Albin Hanssons vag 41, S-20512 Malmo (SE).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): ARDENK-JAER-LARSEN, Jan, Henrik [DK/SE]; Amersham Health R & D AB, Medeon, Per Albin Hanssons vag 41, S-20512 Malmo (SE). AXELSSON, Oskar [SE/SE]; Amersham Health R & D AB, Medeon, Per Albin Hanssons vag 41, S-20512 Malmo (SE). GOLDMAN, Maurice [FR/FR]; 6 Residence de Villebon, F-91140

Villebon sur Yvette (FR). JOHANESSON, Haukur [IS/SE]; Amersham Health R & D AB, Medeon, Per Albin Hanssons vag 41, S-20512 Malmo (SE).

- (74) Agents: FRANKS, Barry et al.; Amersham plc, Amersham Place, Little Chalfont, Buckinghamshire HP7 9NA
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR PRODUCING CONTRAST AGENT FOR MAGNETIC RESONANCE **IMAGING**



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an arrangement and a method for providing contrast agent for e.g. MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) and NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) applications. The method according to the invention comprises the steps of obtaining (100) a solution in a solvent of a hydrogenatable, unsaturated substrate compound and a catalyst for the hydrogenation of a substrate compound, hydrogenating (105) the substrate with hydrogen gas (H2) enriched in para-hydrogen (p-1H2) to form a hydrogenated contrast agent and exposing (110: 705) the contrast agent to a magnetic field cycling profile adapted for enhancing the contrasting effects of the contrast agent. The magnetic field cycling profile comprises an initial decrease of the magnetic field followed by at least one increase of the magnetic field, which increase should be arranged as to give a non-adiabatic (diabatic) remagnetisation of the contrast agent.